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August 6, 2009

VIA E-FILING

Charles L. A. Terreni, Esquire Chief Clerk of the Commission SC Public Service Commission P. O. Drawer 11649 Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Application of Aqua South Carolina for Approval of a New

Schedule of Rates and Charges for Water and Sewerage

Services Provided to Customers Docket No.: 2009-12-S

Dear Mr. Terreni:

Enclosed please find for filing the Petition For Waiver ordered by the Public Service Commission in the Order in the above-captioned docket. By copy of this letter, I am serving all parties of record.

If counsel or you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Elliott & Elliott, P.A.

Scott Elliott

SE/jcl

Enclosure

cc: Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esq. w/enc.

Kimberly Joyce, Esq.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

DOCKET NO.: 2009-12-S

RE: Petition of Aqua South Carolina)
For Waiver

Aqua South Carolina Inc. ("Aqua") respectfully requests a waiver of Rule 103-510 and Rule 103-532 of the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission").

WAIVER OF RULE 103-510

- Rule 103-510 requires that all records and reports be kept in an office located in South Carolina and be available for examination by the Office of Regulatory Staff ("ORS").
- 2. Due to the size of the system in South Carolina, Aqua believes it would not be cost effective to maintain an office in the state at this time.
- 3. Aqua does believe that a local presence is important and utilizes a local billing agent to handle billing and customer inquiries. Aqua also utilizes a local contractor to handle service calls and emergencies. Aqua personnel closely monitor service calls and the operation of the system.
- 4. In addition, during the course of the ORS audit in Docket No. 2009-12-S, all necessary records were easily transferred to Staff for review via email or hard copy.

5. For the above mentioned reasons, Aqua respectfully requests waiver of Rule 103-510.

WAVIER OF RULE 103-532

- 6. Rule 103-532 sets forth the requirements that must appear on a customer's bill. These include the: 1) amount of the bill; 2) person to whom the bill is sent; 3) the dates for which the bill is rendered; 4) the applicable rate schedule (if the actual rate is not shown, the bill shall carry a statement to the effect that the applicable rate schedule will be furnished on request); telephone number where the utility can be contacted during regular office hours and non-office hours; and 5) date payment is due.
- 7. The bill that that is sent to Aqua customer complies with all of the above except for the rate schedule (item 4 listed above) and it is this part of the Rule for which Aqua seeks a waiver.
- 8. As mentioned above, Aqua utilizes a local billing agent, Startex, Jackson, Welford, Duncan ("SJWD"), to perform its billing. SJWD provides water service to Brookside customers; Aqua provides wastewater services. Charges for both water and wastewater services appear on the same bill.
- 9. Aqua has discussed adding the rate schedule with SJWD management on several occasions. Unfortunately, SJWD has indicated that due to the configuration of the bill and the computer system currently in place, it is unable to add a reference to the specific tariff number and rate.
- 10. The rate in effect at this time for all Aqua customers is a flat rate of \$37 with no base facility or varying consumption charge. Therefore, the charge that appears on the customer bill is the same and reflective of the tariffed rate.

11. As part of this waiver petition, Aqua proposes to notify all customers of the new Commission approved rates via mail and provide the authorized rates in effect, background information about Aqua South Carolina and the reason for the rate increase, the appropriate customer service address and phone numbers and note that the Commission has jurisdiction over customer complaint process. Aqua respectfully submits that the foregoing provides adequate notice to its customers of the tariff rate, customer service and customer complaint process.

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- For the above mentioned reasons, Aqua respectfully requests waiver of Rule 103 532.
- 13. The Petitioner is represented by counsel in this proceeding as follows:

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WHEREFORE, petitioner prays for waiver of Commission Rule 103-510 and Rule 103-532.

Scott Elliott, Esquire

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Attorney for Aqua South Carolina

August 6, 2009

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned employee of Elliott & Elliott, P.A. does hereby certify that she has served below listed parties with a copy of the pleading to the persons indicated below by mailing a copy of same to them in the United States mail, by regular mail, with sufficient postage affixed thereto and return address clearly marked on the date indicated below:

RE:

Application of Aqua South Carolina for Approval of a New

Schedule of Rates and Chares for Sewerage Services Provided to

Customers in Spartanburg County

Docket No.:

2009-12-S

PARTIES SERVED:

Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire

Office of Regulatory Staff

P. O. Box 11263 Columbia, SC 29211

PLEADING:

Petition For Waiver

Jackie C. Livingston, Paralega

August 6, 2009